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CONTENTS

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LATE NEWS

Pakistan's Ministry of Commerce has announced the enactment of an Ordinance giving the Central Government power to (1) fix minimum prices for cotton, (2) regulate cotton ginning and processing charges, (3) compel ginners to buy cotton and pay not less than the minimum prices for it, (4) deal in cotton, and (5) to register and regulate trading in, and movement of cotton.

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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

11 PERCENT RISE IN WORLD CITRUS PRODUCTION 1/

World citrus production for the bloom of 1950 is indicated to be 372.9 million boxes, 11 percent above the 1949 crop of 337.3 million and 36 percent higher than the prewar, (1935-39) average of 274.0 million boxes. The aggregate total for 1950 consists of oranges (including tangerines), 291.4 million boxes, (78 percent); grapefruit 51.6 million, (14 percent); lemons 26.5 million, (7 percent) and limes 3.4 million boxes, (1 percent).

Orange production in 1950 in specified countries of the world is indicated to be 291.4 million boxes, 9 percent above the 1949 crop of 268.2 million and 37 percent above the prewar average of 213.4 million boxes. In the North American area, production of oranges in the United States, the largest producer in that area, is indicated to be 110.6 million boxes, 2 percent above the 1949 crop of 108.5 million and 65 percent above the prewar average of 67.0 million boxes.

Production in Europe is indicated to be 47.8 million boxes and compares with 34.4 million for 1949, and 37.4 million prewar. The Italian crop of 14.5 million boxes is one of the largest on record; it is made up of 12.5 million boxes of oranges, 51 percent above the previous year's crop of 8.3 million, and of 2.0 million boxes of tangerines. In Spain the 1950 crop is indicated to be 30.5 million boxes, 41 percent above the 1949 crop of 21.6 million and 26 percent above the prewar average of 24.2 million boxes. Weather conditions in the principal producing districts were favorable to citrus fruits.

Japan's indicated production of 13.6 million boxes is 39 percent above the 1949 crop of 9.8 million boxes and 15 percent below the prewar average of 15.9 million.

Orange production in Africa of 26.9 million boxes is 9 percent above the 1949 crop of 24.7 million and 78 percent above the prewar average of 15.1 million boxes. The orange crop in Algeria totaling 8.1 million boxes and in French Morocco totaling 5.2 million compares with 6.7 million and 4.5 million respectively in 1949. Weather and growing conditions were favorable for citrus in both countries.

The 1950 orange crop in Oceania is indicated to be 3.5 million boxes or about the same as last season.

Production indications for the 1950-51 crop in South America is based on trends since it is too early to obtain concrete information for this area.

1/ A more extensive statement will be published soon as a Foreign Agriculture Circular, available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39/1940-44, annual 1947-50

ORANGES, including tangerines

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
NORTH AMERICA						
Costa Rica	6	22	30	30	30	30
Mexico	4,761	7,719	10,866	12,605	12,950	13,228
United States	67,034	95,977	114,510	104,120	108,535	110,640
Cuba	1,050	1,170	1,200	1,250	1,250	1,500
Dominican Republic	401	465	425	707	1,250	1,500
Jamaica	435	485	760	763	900	1,000
Puerto Rico	807	500	780	678	1,000	1,000
Trinidad and Tobago	55	70	131	81	146	150
Total	74,549	106,408	128,702	120,234	126,061	129,048
EUROPE						
Aegean Islands	53	40	40	40	40	40
France	37	20	38	66	115	120
Greece	1,470	1,500	1,714	2,223	2,717	2,646
Italy	11,701	11,186	12,095	12,920	9,847	14,487
Spain	24,167	27,263	23,733	23,576	21,650	30,538
Total	37,428	40,009	37,620	38,825	34,369	47,831
ASIA						
Cyprus	441	329	442	554	437	344
Iran	504 2/	1,358	1,827	1,921	1,260	1,417
Lebanon	3/ 1,093 3/	1,274	1,650	1,020	1,052	1,225
Palestine	8,652	7,494	13,000 4/	6,300 4/	5,750 4/	5,300
Syria	5/	5/	81	75	75	90
Turkey	1,011	980	1,225	1,009	1,499	997
Japan	15,895	17,893	6,496	9,126	9,800	13,575
Formosa	897	963	902	929	900	900
Philippine Islands	195	300	296	301	300	300
Total	28,688	30,591	25,919	21,235	21,073	24,148
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	9,212	13,818	11,200	8,440	9,570	10,000
Bolivia	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,300	3,500	3,700
Brazil	34,466	32,606	34,825	35,138	35,674	36,000
Chile	250	340	800	900	850	900
Ecuador	582	412	227	188	200	200
Paraguay	5,000	7,019	6,500	8,360	5,790	6,000
Peru	1,000	1,000	1,154	1,400	1,500	1,600
Surinam	20	33	92	310	300	350
Uruguay	1,300	1,300	1,116	1,200	1,200	1,200
Total	54,830	59,528	59,014	59,236	58,584	59,950

Continued---

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39/1940-44, annual 1947-50

ORANGES, including tangerines

Concluded---

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
AFRICA						
Algeria	3,168	3,575	3,716	6,829	6,726	8,091
British East Africa	100	130	150	150	150	150
Egypt	6,373	7,135	7,427	6,370	6,130	6,000
French Morocco	927	1,250	2,698	3,653	4,535	5,183
Mozambique	100	148	155	165	170	175
Northern Rhodesia	9	11	13	13	13	13
Southern Rhodesia	196	192	289	266	275	275
Tunisia	239	409	652	573	939	1,024
Union of South Africa	4,000	5,918	5,607	5,863	5,787	6,000
Total	15,112	18,768	20,707	23,882	24,725	26,911
OCEANIA						
Australia	2,735	2,584	3,636	3,206	3,409	3,500
New Zealand	23	17	8	12	10	10
Total	2,758	2,601	3,644	3,218	3,419	3,510
World total	213,365	257,905	275,606	266,630	268,231	291,398

GRAPEFRUIT

NORTH AMERICA						
United States	31,787	48,379	61,630	45,530	36,500	47,520
Cuba	375	244	130	150	170	190
Jamaica	213	226	290	421	436	500
Puerto Rico	448	500	525	525	525	525
Trinidad and Tobago	174	178	587	194	579	600
Total	32,997	49,527	63,162	46,820	38,210	49,335
ASIA						
Cyprus	44	50	159	146	159	159
Palestine	1,445	608	1,500 4/	1,068 4/	750 4/	600
Philippines, Republic of	170	250	278	291	300	300
Total	1,659	908	1,937	1,505	1,209	1,059
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	2/ 48	134	129	125	179	185
Surinam	10	10	16	100	70	100
Total	58	144	145	225	249	285

Continued ---

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39/1940-44, annual 1947-50

GRAPEFRUIT

Concluded---

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
AFRICA						
Algeria	2/ 9	14	26	24	29	14
French Morocco	10	14	29	55	83	56
Southern Rhodesia	3	4	6	4	8	8
Union of South Africa	495	835	693	724	715	725
Total	517	867	754	807	835	803
OCEANIA						
New Zealand	15	25	66	69	76	85
World total	35,246	51,471	66,064	49,426	40,579	51,567

LEMONS

NORTH AMERICA						
United States	9,552	13,487	12,870	10,010	11,360	12,500
EUROPE						
Aegean Islands	9	9	10	10	10	10
France	7	4	5	6	6	5
Greece	446	450	635	815	911	783
Italy	9,637	8,767	8,137	7,386	6,768	6,933
Spain	1,445	1,339	1,339	812	870	1,244
Total	11,544	10,569	10,126	9,029	8,565	8,975
ASIA						
Cyprus	52	41	60	76	64	44
Lebanon	3/ 464	3/ 399	580	348	290	363
Palestine	88	120	500	4/ 250	4/ 100	4/ 100
Syria	5/	5/	10	10	10	12
Turkey	74	120	314	242	184	64
Total	678	680	1,464	926	648	583
SOUTH AMERICA						
Argentina	371	1,130	1,340	1,300	1,890	2,000
Chile	250	349	1,146	1,167	1,146	1,150
Surinam	2	3	15	28	30	30
Total	623	1,482	2,501	2,495	3,066	3,180

Continued---

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, averages 1935-39/1940-44, annual 1947-50

LEMONS

Concluded---

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	Average 1940-44	1947	1948	1949	1950 1/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
AFRICA						
Algeria	102	93	92	159	186	75
Egypt	81	112	150	150	150	150
French Morocco	18	24	51	58	87	100
Southern Rhodesia	3	4	5	3	6	6
Tunisia	50	138	145	160	203	203
Union of South Africa	142	206	182	191	188	190
Total	396	577	625	721	820	724
OCEANIA						
Australia	302	339	408	380	477	500
New Zealand	65	55	90	74	77	80
Total	367	394	498	454	554	580
World total	23,160	27,189	28,084	23,635	25,013	26,542

LIMES

NORTH AMERICA						
Mexico	652	1,083	1,684	1,751	1,791	1,709
United States	63	169	170	200	260	280
Dominica	87	216	210	210	210	210
Grenada	5	8	20	20	20	20
Jamaica	17	30	60	60	65	65
Montserrat	19	15	17	17	20	20
St. Lucia	62	33	25	25	25	25
Trinidad and Tobago	24	75	120	110	100	100
Total	929	1,629	2,306	2,393	2,491	2,429
SOUTH AMERICA						
British Guiana	16	16	55	55	60	60
AFRICA						
Egypt	1,194	1,248	910	775	800	800
Gold Coast	126	104	92	100	100	100
Total	1,320	1,352	1,002	875	900	900
World total	2,265	2,997	3,363	3,323	3,451	3,389

RECAPITULATION

Oranges	213,365	257,905	275,606	266,630	268,231	291,398
Grapefruit	35,246	51,471	66,064	49,426	40,579	51,567
Lemons	23,160	27,189	28,084	23,635	25,013	26,542
Limes	2,265	2,997	3,363	3,323	3,451	3,389
Total	274,036	339,562	373,117	343,014	337,274	372,896

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 5 years. 3/ Includes Syria. 4/ Production in Israel only; representing 90 percent of total Palestine acreage. 5/ Included in Lebanon.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Production estimates relate to the crop from bloom of year shown. Harvesting in Northern Hemisphere countries begins about November and in Southern Hemisphere about February of the following year. Production in foreign countries converted to boxes of the following weights: Oranges, 70 pounds; grapefruit and limes, 80 pounds; lemons, 76 pounds.

The United States produces 92 percent of all the grapefruit in the world. The 1950 grapefruit crop in the United States is indicated to be 47.5 million boxes, 30 percent above the previous year's crop of 36.5 million and 49 percent above the prewar average of 31.8 million boxes.

World production of lemons for 1950 is indicated to be 26.5 million boxes, of which the United States and Italy produced 73 percent. Production in the United States indicated to be 12.5 million boxes is 47 percent of the world total and is around 1 million boxes more than was produced during 1949. The Italian lemon crop of 6.9 million boxes is 2 percent above the 1949 crop of 6.8 million boxes, but is 28 percent below the prewar average of 9.6 million boxes. The 1950 crop of lemons suffered not only from malsecco, but from a severe March frost.

Lime production in 1950 is indicated to be 3.4 million boxes, a little less than was produced last season. Mexico is the largest producer of limes in the world and in 1950, has prospects of 1.7 million boxes, slightly less than were produced in 1949.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD 1950 FILBERT PRODUCTION ESTIMATE LOWER 1/

The 1950 preliminary estimate for filbert production in Italy, Spain, Turkey and the United States, the leading commercial producing countries, is 89,620 short tons, unshelled basis, (revised) compared to 159,340 tons in 1949 and 102,340 tons in 1948. The estimate is about 15 percent below the 10-year (1939-48) average of 105,770 tons and 21 percent below the 5-year (1944-48) average of 113,910 tons. It is the smallest estimate since 1945 and follows the second largest world production on record. The present estimate shows a decrease for Spain and Turkey but an increase for Italy over the estimate of September 4. The United States estimate is up slightly from the previous report.

The 1950 harvest in Turkey was the poorest in many years and was not altogether unexpected since it followed the largest harvest on record. The Italian harvest exceeded expectations and was one of the largest in recent years. The Spanish crop was severely damaged by weather.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, 25, D. C.

FILBERTS; unshelled: Estimated production in specified countries, 1950 with comparisions

(Foreign production rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Mediterranean Basin total	United States	World total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average						
1939-48	20,800	22,600	56,400	99,800	5,970	105,770
1944-48	24,200	24,300	58,300	106,800	7,110	113,910
Annual						
1944	21,300	38,000	52,800	112,100	6,520	118,620
1945	15,700	18,000	33,000	66,700	5,320	72,020
1946	47,800	18,200	90,000	156,000	8,450	164,450
1947	9,900	33,000	60,500	103,400	8,800	112,200
1948	26,400	14,500	55,000	95,900	6,440	102,340
1949 1/	32,700	16,500	99,000	148,200	11,140	159,340
1950 1/ 2/	42,900	17,600	23,000	83,500	6,120	89,620

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Revised.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information.

UNITED STATES: Imports, for consumption, of shelled and unshelled filberts

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
			SHELLED		
Average:					
1940-41/1949-50	48	195	2,175	29	2,447
1945-46/1949-50	87	24	3,651	57	3,819
Annual:					
1945-46	178	6	4,231	180	4,595
1946-47	133	1	4,921	5	5,060
1947-48	39	0	2,398	11	2,448
1948-49	43	0	3,623	30	3,696
1949-50	43	113	3,082	60	3,298
1950-51 1/	297	0	472	55	824
			UNSHELLED		
Average:					
1940-41/1949-50	207	31	1	0	239
1945-46/1949-50	406	58	2	0	466
Annual:					
1945-46	361	220	8	0	589
1946-47	1,600	69	0	0	1,669
1947-48	3	0	0	0	3
1948-49	44	0	0	0	44
1949-50	24	0	0	0	24
1950-51 1/	0	0	0	0	0

1/ 3 months, September through November
Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

UNITED STATES: Exports of filberts for consumption 1/

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	Mexico	Cuba	Argentina	Canada	Other	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short ton
Average:						
1945-46/1949-50	9	150	12	46	50	267
Annual:						
1945-46	3	97	0	21	28	149
1946-47	12	158	52	45	23	290
1947-48	28	145	6	155	132	466
1948-49	1	162	0	4	27	194
1949-50	0	188	0	6	42	236
1950-51 2/	4	262	0	26	18	310

1/ Unclassified as to shelled and unshelled. Included in "other" nuts before 1943.
2/ 3 months, September through November
Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Census.

The United States crop also suffered weather damage and was only about half that of last year. The stocks of filberts remaining on hand in the Mediterranean Basin on January 1, 1951 from the 1950 harvest are estimated to total about 32,900 short tons, unshelled basis, or 39 percent of the 1950 harvest.

The 1950-51 export season abroad has been somewhat different than during normal years, largely because of the very poor crop in Turkey. The prices of Turkish filberts rose rapidly when it became apparent the harvest would be small. Foreign buyers turned their attention to Italy and, to some extent, to Spain where prices appeared somewhat more attractive. European buyers became more active and bought heavily as the world political situation deteriorated. Italy enjoyed an almost unprecedentedly good export trade in filberts, having exported in the first 4 months almost twice as much as in the entire previous year. The Turkish exporters did not do so well as they almost priced themselves out of the market. Official export statistics for the 3 foreign countries are not available for the period. However, it appears some 48,000 short tons of filberts unshelled basis have moved into export channels or about 57 percent of the foreign harvest.

The export outlook for the remainder of the season is somewhat obscured by the uncertain world situation. The Italian exporters are optimistic and hope to be able to sell all remaining stocks by April. In Spain and Turkey there is some doubt as to ability to dispose of the present stocks before new-crop nuts arrive this fall.

United States imports during the first 3 months of the season totalled 574 tons of shelled nuts mostly from Turkey and Italy. The Turkish nuts in some instances came by way of a third country. It is reported some unshelled Italian Giffoni are now on the way to the United States. Total United States imports of filberts this season probably will be below last year.

This estimate of filbert production in Italy, Spain, Turkey, and the United States is based in part upon studies conducted by Walter R. Schreiber, Agricultural Economist, under the Research and Marketing Act program, U. S. Department of Agriculture. It also is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

1950 FOREIGN ALMOND CROP LARGEST ON RECORD 1/

The 1950 preliminary estimate of shelled almond production in the leading foreign producing countries has been revised upward to 94,000 short tons compared with 60,300 tons in 1949 and 54,000 tons in 1948. The estimate is 46 percent above the 10-year (1939-48) average of 64,300 tons and 36 percent above the 5-year (1944-48) average of 69,000 tons.

The crop in the smaller producing areas turned out about as reported in September. However, the Italian harvest exceeded all expectations and is the largest on record. The United States crop is now estimated to have totaled only 36,000 short tons unshelled basis.

On January 1, 1951 it was estimated that unsold stocks in the foreign countries totaled 30,600 short tons, shelled basis, or about 33 percent of the 1950 harvest for these countries. Italy has an estimated 16,600 tons and Spain 9,200 tons, mostly still in growers' hands. Present stocks, considering the record production, are relatively light. In the previous season, with a much smaller harvest, it was estimated that 24,600 tons were still on hand on February 1.

The 1950-51 export season in the Mediterranean Basin countries started amid a certain amount of confusion, such as rapidly falling prices for future shipment in Italy at midsummer; complicated export regulations in Spain and the disturbed world situation. In Italy, the confusion did not last long, and prices and exports increased rapidly and to such a degree that the season has become one of the most active to date in the postwar period. The export season in Spain was a little slower in getting under way but has now reached a good stride. The official export regulations in that country were finally clarified sufficiently to permit exporters to operate. The lifting of countervailing duties by the United States on Spanish almonds on November 15 stimulated the trade in that country.

Official export statistics for the foreign countries are not yet available. However, according to Trade estimates it appears that about 50,200 short tons of shelled almonds had been exported to January 1, 1951 or about 53 percent of the 1950 harvest. Italy is estimated to have exported 31,000 tons, or 33 percent of the total, and most of the balance was from Spain. The exports to February 1, 1950 in the preceding season for all 6 countries totaled only an estimated 21,000 short tons.

The export activity this season is attributed to a number of causes. The short filbert harvest in Turkey which in turn brought prices for that nut to the highest level in years, is given credit for some of the demand for almonds. The principal factor in the export movement is said to be "scare buying" by Western European countries.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

ALMONDS, SHELLED: Estimated Commercial production in specified countries, 1950 with comparisons

(Rounded to nearest 100 short tons)

Year	France	French Morocco	Iran	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Foreign total	United States unshelled
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average								
1939-48	700	2,200	6,700	28,300	2,500	23,900	64,300	23,300
1944-48	900	2,200	6,500	34,200	2,300	22,900	69,000	30,400
Annual								
1945	500	3,300	6,600	50,600	2,300	26,400	89,700	27,200
1946	700	2,400	7,700	33,000	3,700	24,200	71,700	37,800
1947	1,000	1,200	6,000	46,200	1,100	22,000	77,500	29,200
1948	1,100	3,300	7,000	18,700	2,900	21,000	54,000	34,000
1949 1/	300	1,900	7,700	24,300	4,200	21,900	60,300	43,300
1950 1/	1,600	3,900	6,600	2/51,700	2/4,400	2/25,800	2/94,000	2/36,600

1/ Preliminary

2/ Revised

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U. S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research, and other information.

UNITED STATES: Imports for consumption of shelled and unshelled almonds

(Crop year, September-August)

Year	French Morocco	Italy	Portugal	Spain	Other countries	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
			SHELLED			
Average						
1939-40/1948-49	16	1,257	517	2,578	175	4,543
1944-45/1948-49	21	2,422	479	3,642	51	6,615
Annual:						
1944-45	15	0	1,218	8,061	31	9,325
1945-46	28	1,508	688	7,140	73	9,437
1946-47	34	2,054	187	950	76	3,301
1947-48	27	4,179	98	1,805	26	6,135
1948-49	0	4,370	206	255	47	4,878
1949-50	41	695	10	1	2/	747
1950-51 1/	3	1,500	0	1	0	1,504
			UNSHELLED			
Average:						
1939-40/1948-49	0	2	3	100	1	106
1944-45/1948-49	0	3	2	116	3	124
Annual:						
1944-45	0	0	11	170	0	181
1945-46	0	0	0	263	5	268
1946-47	0	6	0	145	6	157
1947-48	0	9	0	0	2/	9
1948-49	0	2	0	0	1	3
1949-50	0	2/	0	0	2/	2/
1950-51 1/	0	6	0	54	0	60

1/ 3 months, September through November

2/ Less than one-half ton.

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of the Census.

Prior to the outbreak of war in Korea it appeared to most foreign exporters that this would be a year of low prices and small exports, but this was completely changed as a result of the Korean war. Western European buyers apparently decided to acquire substantial stocks for fear they would be unable to do so later. The improving economic conditions in most of the countries also helped the almond market.

The remainder of the season is expected by most foreign exporters to be about as active as the first part of it. Optimism seems evident among all of the trade with the possible exception of Iran. The most optimism seems to be in Spain where inquiries from abroad, including the United States, seem to be coming in good volume. At present, exporters in both Italy and Spain feel that with increased purchases by the United States and continued heavy demand from European countries all remaining stocks should easily be sold before new-crop nuts are available this fall.

This estimate of foreign almond production is based in part upon studies conducted by Walter R. Schreiber, Agricultural Economist, under the Research and Marketing Act program, U.S. Department of Agriculture. It also is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

U.S. FOREIGN TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS DURING NOVEMBER 1950 1/

United States exports of agricultural products during November, the fifth month of the 1950-51 fiscal year, were valued at $266,001,000 compared with $259,311,000 during November 1949, representing an increase of 3 percent. The country's exports of all commodities, agricultural as well as nonagricultural, were valued at $966,690,000 against $833,293,000 in the same month a year ago, representing an increase of 16 percent. Agricultural products constituted 28 percent of the total exports during the month under review compared with 31 percent during November 1949.

1/ Fuller details than presented in this summary will be published in U.S. Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products for November 1950, available on request from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

UNITED STATES: Summary of exports, domestic, of selected agricultural products, during November 1949 and 1950

Commodity exported	Unit	November			
		Quantity		Value	
		1949	1950	1949	1950
				1,000	1,000
ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Butter	Lb.	301	279	207	188
Cheese	Lb.	646	16,463	265	1,889
Milk, condensed	Lb.	1,618	4,327	355	981
Milk, whole, dried	Lb.	4,377	5,308	2,216	2,554
Nonfat dry milk solids	Lb.	2,814	18,994	390	491
Milk, evaporated	Lb.	14,862	8,225	1,873	1,270
Eggs, dried	Lb.	94	4,549	113	425
Beef and veal, total 1/	Lb.	1,167	783	560	320
Pork, total 1/	Lb.	2,711	5,504	1,022	1,771
Horse meat	Lb.	677	982	127	102
Lard (including neutral)	Lb.	49,467	26,014	6,504	3,984
Tallow, edible and inedible	Lb.	30,979	31,734	2,324	3,881
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton, unmfd, excl. linters (480 lb.)	Bale	453	387	71,361	79,185
Apples, fresh	Lb.	13,458	15,662	913	1,045
Grapefruit, fresh	Lb.	8,660	10,925	373	390
Oranges, fresh	Lb.	23,332	18,995	1,086	844
Pears, fresh	Lb.	3,231	6,686	268	455
Prunes, dried	Lb.	14,323	2,244	1,407	395
Raisins and currants	Lb.	32,808	2,775	3,333	572
Fruits, canned	Lb.	7,676	10,213	1,150	1,668
Fruit juices	Gal.	1,512	1,836	1,384	1,765
Barley, grain (48 lb.)	Bu.	1,177	3,272	1,506	4,435
Barley malt (34 lb.)	Bu.	290	327	715	808
Corn, grain (56 lb.)	Bu.	20,514	10,326	29,167	16,789
Grain sorghums (56 lb.)	Bu.	760	7,949	995	9,675
Rice, milled, brown, etc.	Lb.	96,787	78,606	7,217	7,378
Wheat, grain (60 lb.)	Bu.	20,482	16,367	47,360	30,776
Flour, wholly of U.S. wheat (100 lb.)	Bag	1,115	1,010	4,870	4,031
Flour, other (100 lb.)	Bag	424	359	2,333	1,840
Hops	Lb.	1,244	2,164	821	1,583
Peanuts, shelled	Lb.	15,094	66	1,487	29
Soybeans (except canned)	Lb.	97,041	255,384	3,797	10,540
Soybean oil, crude and refined	Lb.	32,965	18,035	4,977	3,112
Soybean flour	Lb.	2,897	477	142	28
Seeds, field and garden	Lb.	2,378	2,243	1,067	677
Tobacco, bright flue-cured	Lb.	31,803	44,783	16,008	27,268
Tobacco, leaf, other	Lb.	5,744	6,311	3,110	3,201
Beans, dried	Lb.	14,568	17,624	808	924
Peas, dried	Lb.	2,387	6,557	153	388
Potatoes, white	Lb.	8,228	16,738	211	307
Vegetables, canned	Lb.	5,703	7,410	827	1,111
Total above				224,802	229,075
Food exported for relief, etc.				1,962	9,048
Other agricultural products				32,547	27,878
Total agricultural				259,311	266,001
Total all commodities				833,293	966,690

1/ Product weight. Compiled from official records, Bureau of the Census.

UNITED STATES: Summary of imports for consumption of selected agricultural products during November 1949 and 1950

Commodity imported	Unit	November			
		Quantity		Value	
SUPPLEMENTARY		1949	1950	1949	1950
				1,000	1,000
ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS:		Thousands	Thousands	dollars	dollars
Cattle, dutiable	No.	70	59	8,676	8,783
Cattle, free (for breeding)	No.	2	2	555	523
Casein and lactarene	Lb.	5,730	3,264	735	933
Cheese	Lb.	3,946	4,885	2,000	2,167
Hides and skins	Lb.	16,305	27,546	5,445	11,015
Beef canned, incl. corned	Lb.	3,455	14,890	1,033	4,419
Wool, unmfd,excl. free, etc.	Lb.	29,869	27,395	16,604	23,631
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Cotton,unmfd.,excl.linters (480 lb.)	Bale	12	9	1,416	2,025
Jute and jute butts,unmfd.(2,240 lb.)	Ton	2	7	395	2,195
Apples, green or ripe (50 lb.)	Bu.	332	322	683	833
Olives in brine	Gal.	356	806	628	1,336
Pineapples, prep. or preserved	Lb.	4,269	4,322	505	411
Barley malt	Lb.	6,244	5,333	326	296
Hops	Lb.	770	199	926	310
Almonds, shelled	Lb.	240	2,103	78	664
Brazil or cream nuts, not shelled	Lb.	85	96	8	23
Cashew nuts	Lb.	3,163	3,780	1,155	1,313
Coconut meat, shredded, etc.	Lb.	11,340	12,550	1,629	1,999
Castor beans	Lb.	27,950	48,585	1,312	3,515
Copra	Lb.	105,826	111,992	7,875	10,502
Flaxseed (56 lb.)	Bu.	0	0	0	0
Coconut oil	Lb.	12,409	11,536	1,478	1,783
Palm oil	Lb.	6,631	3,760	505	531
Tung oil	Lb.	9,776	12,406	1,912	2,678
Sugar, excl. beet (2,000 lb.)	Ton	222	164	23,761	17,495
Molasses, unfit for human consumption	Gal.	11,710	5,377	806	622
Tobacco, cigarette leaf	Lb.	4,730	4,913	3,396	3,519
Tobacco, other leaf	Lb.	1,599	1,450	2,101	2,435
Potatoes, white	Lb.	145,306	12,299	3,090	186
Tomatoes, natural state	Lb.	2,717	1,699	175	125
COMPLEMENTARY					
Wool, unmfd., free in bond	Lb.	16,289	24,191	5,534	15,305
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS:					
Bananas	Bunch	4,616	3,886	4,715	4,197
Coffee (ex. into Puerto Rico)	Lb.	265,901	182,174	77,471	88,015
Cocoa or cacao beans	Lb.	46,746	30,829	8,147	9,671
Tea	Lb.	9,327	8,662	4,358	4,088
Spices (complementary)	Lb.	7,837	7,703	4,271	5,039
Sisal and henequen (2,240 lb.)	Ton	7	14	1,673	3,384
Rubber, crude	Lb.	150,421	164,401	22,345	68,370
Total above				217,722	304,336
Other agricultural products				52,560	59,373
Total agricultural products				270,282	363,709
Total all commodities				591,742	840,943

As usual, cotton held first place in value among the agricultural exports, total exports for the month under review being valued at $79,185,000 compared with $71,361,000 during November 1949, an increase of 11 percent. Second position went to wheat and wheat flour, November 1950 exports of which were valued at $36,647,000. This represented a reduction of 33 percent from the $54,563,000 worth exported during November 1949. Leaf tobacco constituted the third most important item on a value basis in our agricultural exports during November 1950, being valued at $30,469,000 compared with $19,118,000 during the same month in 1949, an increase of 59 percent.

On a quantitative basis, the outstanding features of the November 1950 agricultural exports, compared with those for November a year earlier, were the striking increases in exports of cheese, condensed milk, nonfat dry milk solids, dried eggs, pork, barley, grain sorghums, soybeans, leaf tobacco, and white potatoes. Less striking but substantial increases are shown also for exports of whole dried milk, fresh apples, pears and grapefruit, canned fruit, hops, dried beans and peas, and canned vegetables. At the same time, however, very large reductions are shown in exports of evaporated milk, lard, fresh oranges, dried prunes, raisins and currants, corn, milled rice, wheat, peanuts, and soybean oil and flour.

United States imports of agricultural products during November 1950 were valued at $363,709,000 compared with $270,282,000 during the same month a year ago, representing an increase of 35 percent. The country's imports of all commodities, both agricultural and nonagricultural, amounted in value to $840,943,000 compared with $591,742,000 in November 1949. Agricultural products constituted 43 percent of the value of all imports during the month under review compared with 46 percent in November 1949. As usual, the commodities heading the list and far in the lead of any other agricultural imports were coffee, rubber, wool and sugar.

On a quantitative basis, the outstanding features revealed by the November 1950 import figures, compared with those for the same month a year earlier, were the large increases in imports of hides and skins, canned and corned beef, wool, almonds, castor beans, copra, tung oil, sisal and henequen, and rubber. At the same time, however, large reductions are revealed in imports of hops, palm oil, sugar, molasses, white potatoes, coffee, and cacoa and cacao beans.

On balance, United States imports of agricultural products during November 1950 exceeded the value of the nation's agricultural exports by $97,708,000. During the same month a year ago, agricultural imports exceeded the value of agricultural exports by $10,971,000. ---By Leo J. Schaben.

CHICKPEA PRODUCTION DROPS IN INDIA AND PAKISTAN; UP ELSEWHERE 1/

Chickpea production in 18 countries - excluding India and Pakistan, the largest producers - is estimated at about 10.4 million bags of 100 pounds in the 1950-51 season. This is 340,000 bags or 3 percent larger than in 1949-50 and 456,000 bags or 5 percent larger than wartime 1940-44 average production of 9.9 million bags. It is 2 million bags or 24 percent larger than the prewar 1935-39 average production of 8.3 million bags.

Production in India and Pakistan have been excluded from the foregoing totals for 2 reasons; (1) many of the India-Pakistan chickpeas are of different varieties than the chickpeas common to the commerce of the Western Hemisphere and (2) inclusion of the very large production of these countries, which is 10 times the volume of the combined production in the other 18 countries, would distort the 20-country total toward the non-commercial varieties of India. These non-commercial varieties are similar to the Porquero-type chickpeas of Mexico, which are used in Mexico mostly for feed. While India and Pakistan produce the common Western commercial type chickpeas, available data fails to separate them from the feed types which apparently are grown extensively in India and Pakistan for both food and feed.

The 1950 production of all varieties in India and Pakistan is estimated at nearly 103 million bags or 14 percent below 1949. Available information also indicates the 1950 production to be considerably below prewar in India, although figures in the table do not reflect it. Indian States not reporting in earlier years were added to the Indian reports in 1946-47 and in 1947-48. In the latter year the accumulated additions of chickpeas amounted to an estimated 25 million bags and 5.2 million acres.

After adjusting for the additions it appears that the 1950 production in India was about 5 to 10 percent below the 5-year averages 1940-44 and 1935-39, and as noted above for India and Pakistan, about 14 percent below 1949.

The 1950 season in India was poor for chickpea production. Yields per acre were down to 429 pounds compared to 496 in 1949, to 553 average in the 1940-44 period and 543 average in 1935-39. Production in the 18 countries of 24 percent above prewar and 3 percent above 1949 reflects a better production year in 1950 than in 1949, as acreage in 1950 was 5 percent below 1949. Average yields were 471

1/ A more comprehensive table showing acreage, yield and production of each of the 20 countries will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular, available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

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GARBANZOS: Acreage, production and yield per acre in 20 countries, averages 1935-39 and 1940-44, annual 1949-50

(100 pound bags)

Continent or area	Acreage				Yield per acre				Production			
	Average		1949	1950 1/	Average		1949	1950 1/	Average		1949	1950 1/
	1935-39	1940-44			1935-39	1940-44			1935-39	1940-44		
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags	1,000 bags
The Americas 2/	264	330	358	344	545	595	632	626	1,439	1,962	2,264	2,153
Europe	1,013	1,420	1,369	1,350	438	336	345	361	4,441	4,772	4,719	4,879
Middle East	217	263	289	282	719	756	636	849	1,560	1,988	1,837	2,393
Africa	172	276	291	224	512	427	412	416	880	1,179	1,198	932
Total 18 countries	1,666	2,289	2,307	2,200	499	433	434	471	8,320	9,901	10,018	10,357
India and Pakistan 3/	14,947	14,340	23,597	23,168	520	517	511	447	77,682	74,148	120,512	103,496
Total 20 countries	16,613	16,629	25,904	25,368	518	505	504	449	86,002	84,049	130,530	113,853

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Mostly produced in Mexico of which about 60 percent are "porquero" type garbanzos used mostly for livestock feed. 3/ Includes large quantities of porquero-type garbanzos (See Note 2/) and figures for 1949 and 1950 include areas not reported in the previous periods.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Years refer to year of harvest in the Northern Hemisphere and includes the harvest immediately following in the Southern Hemisphere.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCO

SOUTH AFRICA'S FLUE-CURED TOBACCO CROP
SLIGHTLY HIGHER; TOTAL PRODUCTION UP

The Union of South Africa's 1950-51 flue-cured tobacco crop is unofficially forecast at about 2 percent above 1949-50 according to J. L. Dougherty, Agricultural Attache, Pretoria. An unofficial forecast places the Union's 1950-51 total leaf crop also at 2 percent above 1949-50.

The unofficial forecast of the country's 1950-51 flue-cured harvest is set at 21.5 million pounds as compared to an unofficial estimate of 21.0 million pounds in 1949-50 and 20.3 million pounds in 1948-49. Unofficial forecasts for total leaf production are set at 44 million pounds as compared to an unofficial estimate of 43 million pounds in 1945-50 and 41.4 million pounds in 1948-49.

Early 1950-51 tobacco plantings were delayed because of dry weather but rainfall has been relatively heavy since planting operations began and the crop is off to a favorable start. The present water supply for irrigation purposes is reportedly adequate to take care of this season's tobacco plantings.

THAILAND'S FLUE-CURED TOBACCO
PRODUCTION INCREASES

Thailand's 1950-51 flue-cured tobacco production is estimated at about 25 percent above 1949-50, according to the American Embassy, Bangkok.

The country's 1950-51 flue-cured harvest is placed at about 11.0 million pounds from 36,000 acres as compared to 8.8 million pounds from 28,800 acres in 1949-50 and 8.5 million pounds from 28,886 acres in 1948-49. The anticipated yield per acre in 1950-51 is about 303 pounds as compared to 305 pounds in 1949-50 and 295 pounds in 1948-49. The country's yield is still very low when compared to other flue-cured producing countries.

MADAGASCAR'S TOBACCO
EXPORTS DECLINE

Madagascar's tobacco exports during the first 9 months (January-September) 1950 were 70 percent below the corresponding period in 1949 according to S. Weintraug, Vice Consul, American Consulate, Tananarive.

The country's leaf exports during the first 9 months totaled 1,279,000 pounds as compared to 4,251,000 during the same period in 1949 which was only 2,200 pounds below the total 1949 exports. During the 1948 calendar year 6,157,000 pounds of leaf was exported. The monthly export average for 1950 is 142,205 pounds as compared to 354,250 pounds in 1949 and 513,121 pounds in 1948.

PHILIPPINE TOBACCO
PRODUCTION RISES

The Philippine 1950-51 leaf crop is forecast at about 30 percent above 1949-50 according to K. Dillabough, Economic Assistant, American Embassy, Manila.

The country's 1950-51 tobacco harvest is forecast at about 70 million pounds as compared to 53 million pounds in 1949-50 and 48.3 million pounds in 1948-49. The 1950-51 forecast is made on the assumption that the season's growing conditions will be favorable.

ARGENTINA'S TOBACCO CROP
PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY

Growing conditions in most of Argentina's tobacco producing areas are reported to be generally satisfactory, according to Cleveland B. McKnight, Assistant Agricultural Attache, Buenos Aires. However, it is reported that there has been some damage caused by the lack of sufficient water in the irrigated area of Salta.

Little, if any, change has been made in the earlier unofficial forecast of the 1950-51 leaf crop of 75 million pounds from 81,500 acres. Of this 81,500 acres it is reported that 11,120 acres are planted to flue-cured tobacco. The 1949-50 total leaf production was 51.1 million pounds from 56,800 acres including 6.2 million pounds of flue-cured leaf from 6,425 acres.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

NEW ZEALAND TO SHIP MEAT
TO U.S. AND CANADA

New Zealand will ship 5,000 tons (11,000,000 pounds) of all types of meat to the United States and Canada, on a consignment basis, toward the end of January or the beginning of February, according to a recent announcement by the Meat Producers' Board. Previously, advice indicated that shipments would be mostly manufacturing meats. Arrangements are being completed to send 3,600 tons (8,000,000 pounds) to the United States and 1,400 tons (3,000,000 pounds) to Canada. These shipments represent the quantity of meat for sale outside the United Kingdom under the U.K.-New Zealand meat contract, but it is possible that 1,000 tons (2,000,000 pounds) more may be available for shipment.

This allocation is being handled by 5 New Zealand exporting firms who are agents for established meat distributors in North America and shipments will be made to only the eastern seaboard of North America. Under the stipulated consignments to the exporting firms, there will be 2 loadings each of 700 tons for Canada and 4 of 900 tons to the United States.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE OUTBREAK
IN COLOMBIA CONFIRMED

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has been officially notified of the existence of Type "O" foot and mouth disease in Colombia. Cabled reports from the typing laboratory in Pirbright, England confirming the outbreak were received by Colombian Government officials January 12. The disease is known to exist at Rondon, fifty miles inside Colombia and is thought to be widespread in the northern part of the Columbian plains.

The disease broke out in Venezuela last July but has been kept out of Colombia through various control measures until this time. The Bureau of Animal Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture has assisted the Government of Colombia in its control program and will continue to give technical aid in combatting the disease.

The Organization of American States and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations have also given, and presumably will continue to give, assistance to Colombia in combatting the outbreak.

Colombia is seriously imperiled by the disease as livestock farming is an important segment of the country's economy. Colombian cattle numbers are estimated at 14.5 million head, hogs 1.2 million and sheep at over 1 million. The country has the highest ratio of cattle to human population of any country in the world.

URUGUAY WOOL
MARKET ACTIVE

The December wool market in Uruguay was firm with increased sales and high prices the outstanding feature. The average price paid in December for Super Fine Crossbreds was about $1.50 a pound, grease basis, as compared to $0.57 cents for December 1949.

Exports for the season beginning October 1, 1950 are approximately 62 million pounds with the United States receiving over 48 million pounds. Exports for the same period last year were considerably lower due to the strike of dock workers for most of the season and amounted to only 27 million pounds total and 18 million pounds to the United States.

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FATS AND OILS

ANTARCTIC WHALING SEASON BEGINS; WHALING COMMISSION TO MEET IN CAPE TOWN IN JULY

The 1950-51 Antarctic pelagic (open sea) whaling season is now under way. Beginning last December 22, it is scheduled to end April 7, 1951.

The total catch of baleen whales taken through January 6 was 3,389 blue-whale units, according to information transmitted to the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service by the International Bureau of Whaling Statistics, Sandefjord, Norway. This figure was exclusive of any catch of the Soviet Union's expedition, "Slava," which had not been reported to the International Bureau as of January 6.

Pelagic whaling is being carried on in the 1950-51 season by 19 expeditions instead of 18 as last season. The additional expedition this year is one flying a Panamanian flag. The 19 floating factories are divided among 7 flags as follows: Norway (10 factories), United Kingdom (3), Japan (2), the Netherlands (1), Panama (1), Soviet Union (1), and the Union of South Africa (1).

There are 3 principal regulatory features in effect for the 1950-51 Antarctic whaling season. Under the provisions of the Schedule annexed to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling signed at Washington, D. C. on December 2, 1946, as amended by the International Whaling Commission, the features are as follows:

1. The season for the taking of baleen whales south of 40 degrees South Latitude is December 22 to April 7.

2. During the authorized season the take of baleen whales shall not exceed 16,000 blue-whale units. (One blue-whale equals 2 fin whales, or 2 1/2 humpback whales, or 6 sei whales.)

3. A maximum of 1,250 humpback whales, to be included within the 16,000 blue-whale-unit quota, may be taken in Antarctic waters beginning February 1.

The International Whaling Commission's second meeting was held in Oslo, Norway, July 17 - 21, 1950. Established as a permanent body, in accordance with the International Whaling Convention of 1946, the Commission came into being in 1948 when the requisite number of governments had ratified the 1946 Convention and the first meeting of the Commission, called by the British Government, as required by the Convention, was held in London in May-June 1949. The Commission's principal functions are regulatory. Consisting of one member from each of the 16 contracting governments that have ratified, or that adhere to, the Convention of 1946, the Commission adopted several recommendations regarding scientific studies and investigations of the whale.

The following countries are represented on the Commission: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, South Africa, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Soviet Union. Additional countries and some organizations--including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP)--were represented by observers.

Officers of the Commission are: Chairman, Birger Bergerson (Norway); Vice-Chairman, A. Remington Kellogg (U.S.); and Secretary, A.T.A. Dobson (U.K.).

The third meeting of the Commission is scheduled to be held in Cape Town, Union of South Africa, beginning next July 23.

VIENNA RATIONS LOW-COST FATS

The City Administration of Vienna, with the approval of the Austrian Federal Government, decided on December 29 last to ration low-cost fats under terms of the Food Rationing Act of 1948, according to information received from the American Legation, Vienna.

Effective this month (January 1), each person would receive a ration per 4-week period of 300 grams (0.66 pound) of margarine and compound vegetable fats, and 300 or 350 grams (0.66 or 0.77 pound) of ECA-financed imported lard. Butter, high-grade edible oils, domestic fats, and commercially-imported lard would continue to be free of rationing at prices approximately 50 percent higher than the rationed fats.

The objective of rationing is to insure equitable distribution of relatively low-priced fats to counteract speculative and consumer hoarding which already has been detrimental to low-income groups.

Other provinces have been encouraged by the Federal Government to re-institute rationing although the plan above applies to Vienna only.

NIGERIA INCREASES PURCHASE PRICES OF PALM PRODUCTS

The Nigerian Oil Palm Produce Marketing Board has increased the purchase prices of palm kernels and palm oil for the year beginning December 29, 1950. Palm kernels are priced at £32 per long ton ($80 per short ton) naked ex-scale port of shipment. The price of palm oil-special grade (up to 4.5 percent free fatty acid at time of purchase)--was established at £71 ($178) naked ex-scale port of shipment. Prices of other grades of palm oil--with free fatty acid content of 9 to 36 percent--range from £55 to £30 ($139 to $75).

These prices are considerably higher than those for 1950 (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 6, 1950). The Marketing Board decided on these prices in view of a stronger world market than previously expected and because of the increasing cost of living in Nigeria.

MEXICO ANTICIPATES RECORD FATS AND OILS SUPPLY 1/

Mexico's total supply of fats and oils in 1951 is expected to amount to approximately 269,000 short tons, 3 percent above the record 260,000 tons of 1950, according to A.M. Gomez, American Embassy, Mexico City. Supplies of vegetable fats and oils likely will approximate the 168,000 tons of 1950, but supplies of animal fats, chiefly tallow, may increase about 7 percent above the 92,000 tons of last year.

MEXICO: Total and per capita annual supplies of fats and oils, 1946-1950 and forecast 1951

Year	Vegetable fats and oils		Animal fats and oils		Total fats and oils	
	Total Supplies	Per capita	Total supplies	Per capita	Total supplies	Per capita
	Short tons	Pounds	Short tons	Pounds	Short tons	Pounds
1946	103,157	9.0	115,016	10.2	218,173	19.2
1947	95,128	8.2	87,846	7.5	182,974	15.7
1948	110,760	9.3	92,585	7.7	203,345	17.0
1949	130,372	10.6	97,415	7.9	227,787	18.5
1950	168,239	13.2	92,152	7.3	260,391	20.5
1951	170,260	13.0	98,987	7.5	269,247	20.5

American Embassy, Mexico City.

Cottonseed oil is expected to outrank all other fats and oils in Mexico's total supply in 1951, with sesame second in importance. Production of cottonseed in 1950, which will be available for consumption in 1951, was more than two and one-half times the quantity produced in 1946. The expansion resulted from the favorable prices for ginned cotton, of which cottonseed is a by-product. The leading source of vegetable oil in 1950 was sesame while cottonseed ranked second. Coconut oil, formerly the second most important vegetable oil in the country's total supply, is now in third place with palm oil and peanut oil following in importance, respectively.

Per capita supplies of fats and oils in 1950 are estimated at 20.3 pounds, 10 percent above 1949.

The proportion of imports in total supplies of fats and oils during 1950 is estimated at only 6.3 percent, the lowest on record. An even lower percentage is anticipated in 1951. Imports of fats and oils during 1950 consisted chiefly of lard and small quantities of tallow, olive oil,

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular, available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

and cottonseed for planting. Flaxseed, linseed oil, and peanuts were the leading exports. Larger exports of peanuts are expected in 1951. Flaxseed and linseed oil shipments will probably remain at the same level. Mexican trade in fats and oils is still controlled by the Government.

An upward trend in fats and oils prices has been evident since the middle of November, due partly to increased domestic demand and partly to higher prices abroad. Prices of coconut, palm, linseed, and castor oils reached new highs during the latter part of 1950. November prices of lard and other edible fats and oils were higher than in the same month of 1949 but were below previous record levels.

PHILIPPINE 1950 COPRA EXPORTS INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

Philippine exports of copra and coconut oil, in terms of copra, in 1950 amounted to 802,162 long tons, almost 22 percent more than in 1949. This was 20 percent less than the record shipments of 1947 but 44 percent more than the 1935-39 average.

Approximately 67 percent of the total volume of copra and coconut oil exports during 1950 went to the United States, compared with 70 percent of the previous year's shipments. European countries accounted for nearly 20 percent of the 1950 total, against about 25 percent of 1949. Average monthly exports of copra in 1950 were 57,600 tons with the largest volume--81,084 tons--exported in the month of August.

During the month of December 1950, exports of 80,816 tons of copra and 8,828 tons of coconut oil (a combined total of 94,830 tons as copra) were three-fourths again as large as exports in the comparable month of 1949.

Export prices during 1950 have ranged from a low of $162.50 per short ton c.i.f. Pacific Coast in June to a high of $225 in September and November. In mid-January 1951, the export price increased sharply to $252.50 per short ton c.i.f. Pacific Coast. Local buying prices also rose during January to 44-45 pesos per 100 kilograms ($223.53-$228.61 per long ton) in Manila and 39-44.50 pesos ($198.13-$226.07) in producing areas.

(See accompanying tables on following pages)

PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC: Copra exports, December 1950 with comparisons

(Long tons)

Country 1/	Average 1935-39	1949	1950 2/	December	
				1949	1950 2/
United States (total)	206,801	375,071	438,989	31,860	44,217
Atlantic Coast	-	39,023	53,954	1,000	6,420
Gulf Coast	-	43,098	59,192	2,465	4,359
Pacific Coast	-	292,950	325,843	28,395	33,438
Canada	-	13,900	21,500	500	1,100
Mexico	7,260	-	-	-	-
Panama Canal Zone	-	775	-	-	-
Panama, Republic of	-	209	-	-	-
Colombia	-	4,000	8,436	-	-
Venezuela	-	1,133	28,224	-	3,750
Belgium	10	7,650	32,579	1,000	3,630
Denmark	6,025	16,085	-	-	-
France	24,589	23,757	8,165	-	1,500
Western Germany	7,309	28,510	2,893	-	-
Italy	4,079	17,830	33,504	2,000	3,120
Netherlands	28,415	10,850	43,806	4,500	5,500
Norway	91	8,000	14,000	-	4,300
Poland	-	1,500	-	-	-
Sweden	4,183	7,600	8,500	-	4,500
Switzerland	-	1,100	1,500	300	-
Japan	1,047	6,075	28,737	-	7,699
Israel and Palestine	-	4,974	10,000	2,500	1,500
Syria	-	1,800	2,600	500	-
Egypt	1,271	-	-	-	-
Union of South Africa	-	2,198	500	-	-
Others	8,758	23,596	7,289	-	-
Total	299,838	556,613	691,222	43,160	80,816

1/ Declared destination. 2/ Preliminary.

American Embassy, Manila.

PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC: Coconut oil exports, December 1950 with comparisons

(Long tons)

Country	Average 1935-39	1949	1950 1/	December 1949	December 1950 1/
United States	155,358	51,864	63,436	6,279	7,812
Venezuela	-	-	300	-	-
Canada	1,885	-	-	-	-
Belgium	-	572	483	-	483
Western Germany	660	3,830	-	-	-
Italy	9	4,249	975	-	250
Netherlands	727	1,409	1,078	-	283
China	392	73	-	-	-
Hong Kong	583	-	-	-	-
Poland	-	260	718	-	-
Union of South Africa	-	1,390	2,664	-	-
Others	2,133	500	238	-	-
Total	161,747	64,147	69,892	6,279	8,828

1/ Preliminary.

American Embassy, Manila.

BRITISH EAST AFRICAN PEANUT SCHEME REPLACED BY NEW PROJECT

The British Government officially has admitted the failure of the British East African Peanut Scheme, according to the American Embassy, London, (reported in "Late News" of Foreign Crops and Markets of January 15 1951, page 33). The information that the total expenditures to date of £36.5 million ($102.2 million) would be written off was contained in a White Paper entitled "The Future of the Overseas Food Corporation," released January 9.

A substitute 7-year project involving 210,000 acres of a purely experimental character is recommended with supervision to be transferred to the British Colonial Office.

The principal object of the new project is to evolve, if possible, profitable types of farming and determine the best sizes of farms on 90,000 acres of land cleared in Kongwa and 60,000 acres to be cleared in each of Urambo and Southern Province by 1954.

Simpler and cheaper methods of operation will be substituted for part of the costly machinery operations employed thus far, according to the report.

The crop area planned for the new scheme in the next 3 years is 65,000 to 81,000 acres. The estimated cost is £6.0 million ($16.8 million).

VENEZUELA'S NEW SOLVENT PLANT FOR PROCESSING COPRA UNSATISFACTORY

Failure of a recently constructed plant at Puerto Cabelle, Venezuela, to extract oil from copra satisfactorily by means of a solvent process--has delayed the operations of a new margarine plant, according to James H. Kempton, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Caracas.

The oil extraction plant has failed to meet expectations in extracting sufficient oil from copra to leave an oil-content residue of only 1 percent in the cake. This failure has come about despite the fact the plant was designed and erected specifically for handling copra. Construction on the plant, reportedly the first in the world that would continuously and directly by means of solvent extract oil from an oleaginous material with as high an oil content as copra, was begun in 1948. And now, despite the equipment company's guarantee to the contrary, after a full year of working at adjustments the engineers believe the process is not capable of extracting oil from copra down to a 1-percent residue. On full-scale runs of 55 short tons per day, the oil left in the cake ran as high as 4 percent. The new margarine plant, whose production has been delayed by failure of the extraction plant has been granted customs-free entry for 1,430 short tons of oil for the purpose of beginning operations. Hence, it expects to have a stock of 440 to 550 tons of margarine by February 1, 1951, when its sales campaign will open.

HONG KONG TUNG OIL EXPORTS IN JANUARY-OCTOBER 1950 UP FROM 1949

Chinese tung oil exports through the port of Hong Kong during the period January-October 1950 totaled 42,133 short tons, reports Walter P. McConaughy, American Consul General, Hong Kong. This was 70 percent more than in the corresponding months of 1949.

The United States took 56 percent of the tung oil exported from Hong Kong in the January-October 1950 period and the United Kingdom 16 percent. The Netherlands, Western Germany, Australia, Japan, and Norway together took the major share of the balance.

October 1950 exports of 6,413 tons were down from the 8,462 tons shipped during the previous month. Exports to the United States declined from 5,561 tons in September to 4,397 in October and exports to the United Kingdom dropped sharply from 1,237 to 471 tons. Exports to Japan during October amounted to 374 tons against no shipments in September.

CHINA 1/: Tung oil exports by country of destination, 1949 and January-October 1949 and 1950

(Short tons)

Country of destination	1949	January-October	
		1949	1950
Austria	-	-	26
Australia	1,360	1,217	1,347
Belgium	238	238	224
Borneo, North	12	10	12
Canada	31	31	55
Denmark	437	336	669
Finland	12	12	11
France	538	448	336
French Indo-China	-	-	84
Western Germany	2,925	2,667	1,836
India	160	160	63
Indonesia	182	181	27
Italy	129	34	445
Japan	-	-	1,168
Macao	2	2	3
Malaya, Federation of	75	68	87
Netherlands	835	618	2,535
New Zealand	180	169	321
Norway	1,130	916	1,041
Other Br. Commonwealth	-	-	40
Portugal	-	-	27
South Africa	257	207	426
Spain	41	41	22
Sweden	736	687	979
Switzerland	-	-	17
Thailand	25	16	28
United Kingdom	8,745	8,343	6,753
United States	8,586	8,333	23,479
Others	26	9	72
Total	26,662	24,743	42,133

1/ Through the Port of Hong Kong only.

Compiled from official sources.

Hong Kong's imports of tung oil in the first 10 months of 1950 were 43,611 tons, of which 39,423 tons came from South China and 3,755 from North China.

Inland stocks of tung oil are estimated at 44,000 tons. The local market price at Canton continued firm during the month of October at H.K. $183 per picul of 133-1/3 pounds ex-warehouse, equivalent to about U.S. $0.24 per pound f.o.b. New York.

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It is reported that when local dealers in Hong Kong were advised from Canton and Hankow on December 19, 1950, that an embargo had been placed on tung oil exports to the United States (see Foreign Crops and Markets of January 15, 1951), many firms were forced to cancel their contracts with United States buyers.

The effects of the embargo were reflected by the sharp increase in the price of tung oil in the United States. On December 15, a few days before the embargo, the price was 28 cents per pound f.o.b. New York. On December 27, the price was 35 cents, and on January 12, 1951, 38.5 cents.

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

HORMONES INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY OF CACAO TREES

A new technique has been developed in Colombia which is expected to greatly increase the yield of cacao trees within a few years, according to V. R. Gardner, Chief of the U. S. Agricultural Mission to Colombia. This new technique resulted from a cooperative experimental project in the use of hormones undertaken by United States and Colombian scientists at the Palmira Station in Colombia.

The average yield of mature cacao trees is less than 1 pound of cured beans per tree. The flowering and fruiting cushions or pads on the trunks and branches of old cacao trees gradually become weakened and go out of production, forcing bearing to the outer and upper parts of the trees. This leads to both smaller yields and higher harvesting costs. A very simple inexpensive, practicable technique has been developed which will at least triple the yields of cacao trees by rejuvenating the weak flowering and fruiting cushions through the use of improved hormones.

The new technique has already been made available to scientists in some other cacao producing countries. It is expected that years of effort by extension and other publicity and educational agencies will be required to get this technique into actual use by cacao growers in view of prevailing educational levels and other limiting factors. However, the new development is described as a great contribution to cacao culture.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1951	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound: Spot quotation	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound: Export and intermediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, Good	1-18	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	137.50	79.68	10.41
Ashmouni, FGF	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	167.25	96.91	10.41
Karnak, FGF	"	"	"	157.25	91.12	10.41
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine	1-18	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 770.00	20.50	21.30
Broach Vijay, Fine	"	"	"	1/ 840.00	22.36	21.30
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine	1-18	82.28 lbs.	"	117.00	42.90	23.09
289F Sind, SG, Fine	"	"	"	121.00	44.36	23.09
289F Punjab, SG, Fine	"	"	"	127.00	46.56	23.09
Buenos Aires		Metric ton				
Type B	1-18	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	4550.00	41.28	3.99
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2	1-18	101.4 lbs.	Sol	(not available)		
Tanguis, Type 5	"	"	"	"	"	
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	"	"	
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4	1-18	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	390.00	64.16	2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	(not available)		valorem
Sertao, Type 4	"	"	"	400.00	65.81	"
Sao Paulo						
Sao Paulo, Type 5	1-18	"	"	425.00	69.92	3.0% 2/ ad valorem
Torreon		Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16"	1-18	101.4 lbs.	Peso	420.00	47.89	7.72
Houston-Galveston-New Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	1-18	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	43.82	---

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Nominal.

2/ Correction: Export tax, shown as 2½% ad valorem on January 4 and 11, should be 3 percent.

PAKISTAN'S COTTON PRODUCTION RISES

The 1950-51 cotton crop in Pakistan is now estimated at 1,100,000 bales (480 pounds net) according to Henry W. Spielman, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Karachi. This is about 9 percent above the 1,014,000 bales produced last season and 32 percent above the 832,000 produced in 1948-49. The planted acreage was reported about the same in all three seasons. Therefore the increased production in the past 2 seasons has been the result of increased yield per acre.

The higher yields are attributed to more extensive planting of improved varieties, particularly in the Punjab, improved cultural and harvesting methods and more efficient marketing and servicing organizations. Many farms, particularly in the Punjab, have been operated the past 3 years by emigrants from India unaccustomed to irrigation farming. By 1949-50 they had begun to adjust to the new conditions and were obtaining higher yields.

Complete information on the damage caused by excessive rain and floods in the Punjab in September 1950 is not yet available. About 400,000 acres were affected but it is believed the area where cotton was completely destroyed will not be large. However, the harvested acreage will undoubtedly fall below last season. The crop losses are now estimated by the Trade to be 50,000 bales or less.

Consumption by Pakistan cotton mills is also increasing as new mills are being built and new equipment added to existing mills. Consumption by mills was reported at 75,000 bales in the 1949-50 season as compared to 60,000 bales the previous season. Consumption may be expected to continue to increase as several new mills are to begin operations during the current season.

Consumption outside the mills is believed to be about 25,000 bales. This does not include cotton that is hand-ginned and used on the farms and never enters the marketing channel. Such consumption is believed confined largely to the mountainous regions of East Pakistan where no reliable information is available as to the extent of such practices.

During the past few seasons Pakistan has had little trouble disposing of cotton. India was the major consumer, but during the past 2 years sales to India have been extremely small with none after the Indian rupee was devalued in September of 1949. Pakistan, however, has found a ready market in Hong Kong and China, Japan, France, Italy and the Soviet Union.

The cotton market in Karachi has been very active this season as the situation has changed from week to week. The small carry-over from the previous year's crop plus the report of the small United States crop and United States export controls gave the Karachi market a strong tone

PAKISTAN: Cotton exports by countries of destination; annual 1947, 1948, and 1949; August-December 1950

(Bales of 480 pounds net)

Country	Year beginning August 1			August-December 1950
	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50	
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Belgium	109.3	21.5	7.5	.8
Czechoslovakia	4.2	30.7	17.5	0
France	54.0	11.4	102.7	10.9
Germany	0	7.3	26.6	5.5
Italy	71.8	12.8	35.7	34.9
Netherlands	20.6	.6	11.6	2.5
Poland	0	1/	26.5	2.3
Spain	44.4	5.4	23.2	28.4
Sweden	12.4	20.0	1.4	3.7
United Kingdom	73.8	86.1	49.8	23.8
Yugoslavia	.8	2.0	21.5	.8
Australia	27.2	1.7	20.0	18.4
French India	0	1/	29.0	4.6
Hong Kong	43.5	34.3	196.7	49.6
China	72.8	33.8	39.2	11.7
India	114.2	278.9	5.0	0
Japan	43.7	61.1	123.2	94.2
United States	33.9	14.0	2.2	.2
Soviet Union	113.9	52.0	69.9	0
Other countries	9.1	3.3	2/ 22.6	9.8
Total	849.6	676.9	831.8	302.1

1/ If any, included in "Other countries". 2/ Finland 7.0, Austria 6.5, Chile 6.3.

Compiled from Government of Pakistan-Ministry of Commerce and Education and Foreign Service Reports.

early in the season. About the middle of August there was a general rumor that the Pakistan rupee would be devalued and the market remained quiet while devaluation discussions were going on. However, when the decision to devalue was postponed and reports of flood damage in the Punjab in September and a strong export demand developed, prices rose rapidly during September and early October. In some cases the prices in October were double those in July. Foreign buyers continued to make contracts regardless of price and when prices rose sharply on the morning of October 12 the Karachi market was closed and trading was suspended on all types of cotton. The major difficulty was the failure to deliver on contracts sold during July and August for October and December delivery. Members of both the Pakistan and Karachi Cotton Associations wished to stop this action before it spread, and the market was closed.

After the situation was reviewed, and steps taken to insure fulfillment of outstanding contracts, the market was reopened 33 days later on October 16, 1950. The additional allocation of cotton for export in the United States and the raising of the export duty by the Pakistan Government from 4.6 cents per pound to near 14 cents per pound toned down prices after the market reopened. On November 24 the Government again raised the export tax to 300 rupees per bale (392 pounds net) or approximately 23 cents per pound. Prices on the Karachi market continued to decline through most of December but during the past few weeks have again shown strength and have been increasing.

All contracts with foreign buyers in Pakistan for Pakistan cotton contain a clause that any increase in cost of handling will either be borne by or passed on to the foreign buyer. Information as to the reaction of the foreign buyer to the greatly increased cost through the raising of export taxes is not available but it is known to be causing serious credit and exchange difficulties. Importers in Italy and France, for example, are allotted a certain quantity of exchange with which to buy cotton in Pakistan. Most of them placed orders for cotton in Karachi for the full amount of the allocation. It will be necessary for them to attempt to obtain from their Government additional foreign exchange with which to pay for this cotton, or reduce the amount of cotton which they will buy.

COTTON CONSUMPTION IN BELGIUM AT RECORD LEVEL

The Belgian cotton textile industry reached an all-time high for monthly cotton consumption during the first quarter (August through October) of the 1950-51 season. According to preliminary information the Belgian mills consumed 130,000 bales (480 pounds net) in the August-October quarter as compared to the 110,000 bales during the corresponding period in 1949 and 95,000 bales in the same period of 1948.

Mill activity is expected to continue at a high level during the November-January quarter due to the brisk demand for textiles resulting from the international situation and the upward movement in cotton prices. Buyers are reported to be making hurried purchases of cotton textiles before the increased cost is reflected fully in textile prices. The increased activity is also due in part to the increased export demand created by custom union between Belgium and the Netherlands removing limitations on imports of Belgian textiles into the Netherlands and the recent freeing of imports between members of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation.

The August-October 1950 consumption is equal to an annual rate of about 520,000 bales which is a 23-percent increase over the 422,000 bales consumed last season and far above the prewar (1934-38) average of 356,000 bales.

Belgian imports of raw cotton during the August-October period were reported at 104,400 bales or about 26,000 less than consumption. Although mill stocks declined to 128,000 bales November 1, 1950, as compared to 154,000 August 1, 1950, there does not appear to be a shortage of cotton at the present time. The industry, however, fears an acute shortage that may hamper mill operations will develop the latter part of the current season.

The United States was the chief source of imports in the August-October 1950 period, supplying 47,100 bales or about 46 percent of total imports. During the 1949-50 season the United States supplied 244,700 bales, or about 54 percent of Belgium's total imports.

Other important sources of raw cotton during the August-October 1950 period were Mexico which supplied 14,280 bales, the Belgian Congo, 15,040 bales, and Peru 10,970 bales.---By Glenn A. Ruggles, based on a report by R.N. Anderson, Agricultural Attache, and M. Davey, American Embassy, Brussels.

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

CUBAN RICE SUPPLIES AT HIGH LEVEL

Despite an increase in the rice consumption of Cuba in 1950, stocks at the year's end were at a high level, according to W.P. Houk, American Vice Consul, Havana. This current favorable supply situation is due to record imports during 1950 and a record domestic harvest.

Rice imports during 1950 totaled 656 million pounds, 10 percent more than the 598 million pounds in the preceding year. All imports during the year were from the United States, according to ships' manifests.

During the 10 years ended 1950, Cuba received 88 percent of its rice imports from the United States, 7 percent from Ecuador, 2 percent from Chile, 1 percent from Mexico, and 2 percent from other countries.

CUBA: Rice imports, by country of origin, averages 1941-50, annual 1948-50

Country of origin	Average			1948	1949	1950 1/
	1941-45	1941-50 1/				
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent of total	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
United States	325	417	88.0	454	590	656
Ecuador	52	34	7.2	23	7	0
Thailand	2	1	0.2	0	0	0
Chile	12	7	1.5	2/	2/	0
Brazil	0	1	0.1	6	0	0
Mexico	6	5	1.1	21	0	0
Br. India and Burma	3	1	.2	0	0	0
Other countries	4	8	1.7	14	1	0
Total	404	474	100.0	518	598	656

1/ Compiled from ships' manifests. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds.

Compiled from official sources, except as noted.

Arrivals during the last half of 1950 totaled 503 million pounds compared with 358 million in the same period of 1949 and with 511 million during the entire 1949-50 quota year (July-June). This increase of over 40 percent resulted from the opening of the 1950-51 basic quota on July 1 after a decline in imports during the high-duty ex-quota period since January 23. Although not large, the increase is accentuated in significance by the fact that, of the total, 180 million pounds entered at the high-duty rate after October 1, and were brought in when stocks were unusually large, while in 1949 all were quota imports during the period.

Despite unfavorable weather early in the planting season and a large abandonment of acreage, subsequent good conditions brought the 1950 Cuban rice crop to about 137.5 million pounds of rough rice, an all-time high. This harvest, now nearly completed, comes from an estimated harvested area of 125,000 acres and a planted area of about 145,000 acres, both larger than in 1949.

CUBA: Rice acreage, production, and imports, averages 1935-44, annual 1947-1950

Year	Acreage	Yield per acre	Production		Imports 1/	Production plus 1/ imports
			Rough	In terms of milled		
	1,000 acres	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Average:						
1935-39...	45	964	43.4	28	445	473
1940-44...	69	1,035	71.4	46	404	450
Annual:						
1947.....	120	1,075	129.0	84	518	602
1948.....	123	1,098	135.0	88	598	686
1949.....	120	1,117	134.0	87	2/ 656	743
1950.....	125	1,100	137.5	89	-	-

1/ Calendar year following given year of acreage and production.
2/ Preliminary figures from ships' manifests.

Compiled from official sources and the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations.

There are many indications that a significant area expansion may occur in the 1951 crop compared with 1950. The main commercial rice area of Oriente Province, which has been confined mostly to land between Manzanillo and Bayamo, this year moved beyond Bayamo in the direction of Holguin. Profits derived from rice growing in Cuba during the last few years have enabled producers who have mechanized all or part of their operation to improve their methods and increase their output.

PAKISTAN'S RICE ACREAGE INCREASES

Pakistan's rice acreage of 1950-51 is forecast at 21,619,000 acres, an increase of 4 percent from the corresponding forecast of 20,711,000 acres in 1949-50. The general increase in the rice acreage this year is attributed to favorable weather conditions at the time of planting. Pakistan normally imports rice to meet annual consumption requirements, but in 1950 exported about 45 million pounds. Considering the present favorable prospects for the current crop, there is possibility that Pakistan may export more than this volume during 1951.

BURMA'S RICE EXPORTS MAINTAINED IN NOVEMBER

Burma's rice exports during November of 194 million pounds were shipped to the following countries (million pounds): India, 61; Ceylon, 59; Japan, 39; Indonesia, 29; Aden, 4; and other countries, 2. These exports brought the January-November total to 2,397 million pounds, or 6 percent less than the 2,538 million pounds exported in the corresponding months of 1949. Exports during this 11-month period were delivered to the following countries (million pounds): Ceylon, 823; Japan, 360; Indonesia, 365; India, 335; Malaya, 75; and the United Kingdom, 52.

AUSTRALIA'S WHEAT ESTIMATE REDUCED

Australia's wheat crop was reduced by unfavorable weather during the latter part of the growing season, according to the latest report from the American Consulate General at Sydney. Latest estimates place the total outturn at about 185 million bushels, compared with earlier forecasts of over 200 million. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, December 11, 1950).

Excessive rains in northern and central New South Wales during October and November apparently reduced yields there somewhat more than had been expected, and the current estimate for that ranking producer is 45 million bushels. This contrasts with earlier expectations of 60 million bushels and the record harvest of 82 million bushels a year earlier. Stem rust has been fairly widespread and blight and root rot also took their toll of the crop in the areas of excessive moisture.

Similar conditions in Queensland resulted in a reduced outturn for that State, the present estimate of 8.5 million bushels being 23 percent below the earlier forecast of 11 million bushels. A small reduction from the earlier forecast is also noted for Victoria. The harvest, now placed at 56 million bushels, is still, however, well above average and only slightly below the record harvest of last year.

Estimates for South Australia and Western Australia are slightly above earlier forecasts. The crop of 30.8 million bushels in South Australia indicates very high yields in that State, with production slightly below average and acreage reduced 40 percent from the average area for the 5 years ended 1938-39. Generally favorable conditions were reported throughout the season in Western Australia, and a small increase has been reported over previous estimates, bringing the total to 47 million bushels. This would be the largest production since 1930-31 when the harvest was reported at 53.5 million bushels. The present indicated yield per acre would set a record.

In addition to lowering the actual outturn, the unfavorable conditions greatly reduced the quality of the grain in New South Wales and Queensland. Wheat of the current crop in New South Wales is reported generally light in weight and low in quality. About one-third of the 29 million bushels delivered up to January 5 from that State was below the interim f.a.q. standard of 54 pounds to the bushel. Because of the wide disparity in grain weights and quality, wheat from that State will be received by the Australian Wheat Board in 4 grades this season, ranging from that with a bushel weight of 59 pounds and up, to a low grade ranging in weight from 46 to 54 pounds per bushel. No wheat weighing less than 46 pounds to the bushel will be received by the Board. Such grain will be used on the farm where grown or sold as feed.

The lowered quality of a substantial part of the outturn results in more of a reduction in exportable surplus than the actual reduction in estimated production would imply. Earlier estimates of a possible 125-million-bushel exportable surplus have been reduced to about 85 million bushels from the current crop, which would be approximately Australia's quota under the International Wheat Agreement. This contrasts with exports of about 125 million bushels during the crop season ended November 1950.

ARGENTINA INCREASES GRAIN PRICES TO PRODUCERS

Basic prices to be paid producers for 1950-51 grain crops have been increased to compensate for increased labor and shipping costs. The increased rate brings the price to wheat growers to the equivalent of $1.66 per bushel, (converted at the new rate of exchange applicable to grain transactions.) The new price is 14 cents per bushel above the originally announced rate.

The price to be paid for rye is the equivalent of $1.19 per bushel, an increase of 13 cents per bushel over the original price. The new rate for barley was set at $1.02 and for oats $0.61, increases of 11 cents and 7 cents respectively. No change was noted for the corn price, which was announced last April at the equivalent of $1.07 per bushel, at the new rate of exchange.

CHICKPEA PRODUCTION---(Continued from Page 74)

pounds in 1950 compared to 434 in 1949, 433 pounds in the wartime 1940-44 period and 499 pounds in 1935-39. The 1950 acreage was down 5 percent from 1949, but was 32 percent above the prewar average.

The largest increase in production in 1950 occurred in the Middle East, where production was 30 percent above 1949, 20 percent above the 1940-44 average and 53 percent above the prewar 1935-39 average. Growing conditions were reported as excellent in most of the Middle East area in 1950.

Europe also reported an increase of production in 1950 with an acreage a little less than in the previous year and also less than the 1940-44 average. Spain, Portugal, and Italy all reported increases in production.

In Mexico, the 1950 acreage, production, and yield per acre declined from 1949 indicating less favorable weather and reflecting growers reaction to the sizeable carry-over of chickpeas from previous seasons. In mid-1950 as much as 800,000 bags of old-crop chickpeas were reported in storage in Sinaloa. This lot now has been reported sold, however. On the whole, chickpea supplies appear plentiful everywhere except in India in the 1950-51 season.---By Orval E. Goodsell, based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

(Continued from Page 78)

MODERATE RISE IN WOOL EXPORTS TO U.S. FROM PRIMARY MARKETS

Exports of wool to the United States from the principal Southern Hemisphere exporting countries through October 1950 amounted to approximately 92 million pounds actual weight as compared to 79 million pounds for the same period last year. 1/ Total exports from the 5 countries were down from 488 million pounds last year to 421 million and reflect the rising market and the tendency of producers to delay marketings. Total exports from the 5 major producers were 2.3 billion pounds in the 1949 season and averaged 1.7 a season for the 1934-38 period.

Australian exports for the season through October were down from 312 last year to 248; New Zealand was down from 81 to 62 and Argentina was down from 42 to 28 million pounds. Exports from Uruguay were up from 11 million pounds in 1949 to 34 in 1950, as activity was considerably curtailed last year by strikes. The Union of South Africa showed an increase of 7 million pounds over the 42 million pounds last year.

Most of the reduction in exports were in those directed to the United Kingdom, France and Belgium.

1/ This increase over last year does not indicate a domination of the market by the United States as activity in foreign markets by this country last year was on a low level as domestic stocks were liquidated.